TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, December 4, 1986 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 29 totaled an estimated 14.1 billion ton-miles, 4.2 percent above the corresponding week of 1985, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both weeks included the Thanksgiving holiday

Cumulative volume for the first 48 weeks of 1986 was an estimated 816.0 billion ton-miles, 0.3 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 29 totaled 304,471, down 0.6 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 24.4 percent lower than the preceding non-holiday week.

Compared with the corresponding week last year, 14 of the 21 major commodity groups decreased. However, grain increased by 3,015 cars (14.6 percent). Twenty of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

The AAR reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 22 totaled 111,581 trailers and/or containers, 18.7 percent above last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 47 weeks of the year was 4,549,043 trailers and/or containers, up 9.3 percent from 1985.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/29/86:

	Loadings in Week ended November 29, 1986		Change from Corresponding Week 1985			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	23,701	I	3,015	14.6	D	7,913	25.0
Other farm products	3,528	D	94	2.6	D	1,108	23.9
Metallic ores	10,626	D	1,674	13.6	I	242	2.3
Coal	93,386	D	2,037	2.1	D	30,075	29.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	8,273	D	72	0.9	D	4,998	37.7
Nonmetallic minerals	6,613	D	357	5.1	D	1,851	21.9
Grain mill products	9,145	I	716	8.5	D	1,946	17.5
Food and kindred products	8,712	I	182	2.1	D	2,808	24.4
Primary forest products	6,964	D	469	6.3	D	3,717	34.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,665	I	488	9.4	D	2,264	28.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,978	D	360	2.9	D	368	3.0
Chemicals and allied products	18,699	D	264	1.4	D	5,169	21.7
Petroleum products	3,380	D	3	0.1	D	943	21.8
Stone, clay and glass products	7,293	I	38	0.5	D	2,168	22.9
Coke	3,567	D	707	16.5	D	649	15.4
Metals and products	6,368	D	961	13.1	D	874	12.1
Motor vehicles and equipment	12,760	D	3,355	20.8	D	8,191	39.1
Waste and scrap materials	5,651	I	111	2.0	D	2,616	31.6
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,497	D	2,833	53.2	D	894	26.4
All other carloads	55,550	I	6,902	14.2	D	19,655	26.1
LCL traffic	115	D	21	15.4	D	60	34.3
Total Cars Loaded	304,471	D	1,755	0.6	D	98,025	24.4
Corresponding week of 1985	306,226						

	1986	1985	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (48 weeks)	18,080,981	18,175,502	D 0.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
47 Weeks ended November 22	802.0	799.9	I 0.3
Week ended November 29	14.1	13.5	I 4.2
48 Weeks cumulative	816.0	813.3	I 0.3

#

AARt - 120486